



HORNSBY GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Excellence in Girls' Education

📍 Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby, NSW 2077

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Principal: Dr Justin Briggs, B.A, Grad. Dip. Ed, M.Ed, PhD, COGE

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR SCHOOL



WE HOPE YOUR VISIT PROVIDES SOME INSIGHT INTO OUR
WONDERFUL SCHOOL AND THE DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES
OFFERED TO OUR STUDENTS



HORNSBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Excellence in Girls' Education

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Hornsby Girls High School.

Our school began its life as a Selective High School for girls in 1930 and has a strong tradition and an established heritage.

Our strong academic and extra-curricular achievements are already well known and our reputation continues to grow. We are proud to offer our students an academic education of the highest quality, along with numerous cultural, sporting and leadership opportunities.

With a caring and committed staff and a disciplined, yet relaxed atmosphere, our students study within the framework of security, confidence and self-development, allowing them to prepare for the challenges of the future.

Our Vision Statement is "Excellence in Girls' Education". We strive to develop each student to her full potential through the many programs and projects available.

Hornsby Girls High School has achieved many successes not only because of the school spirit, but because of the many opportunities for all students to develop their diverse talents and interests.

We encourage all our students to strive for excellence in their academic pursuits and to enjoy the many extra-curricular activities available.

Our P&C Association is very active in support of the school, and we encourage parental and community participation in our school as much as possible. Additionally an active Old Girls' Union ensures that our traditions continue.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Justin Briggs

Principal

At Hornsby Girls High School we are committed to “Excellence in Girls’ Education” through Positive Education


We aim to cultivate students’ intellectual, socio-emotional, creative and physical wellbeing through a curriculum that fosters a broad set of character strengths, virtues and competencies which work together to create engaged, resilient, flourishing students.

Students are encouraged to THRIVE, CONNECT AND SUCCEED in an ENABLING school by:

- Extending students to their full potential
- Providing students with a diverse range of educational opportunities and experiences
- Developing students as responsible and successful leaders and members of the community
- Responding to the social, physical and emotional needs of the students.

At Hornsby Girls High School:

Students have opportunities to achieve excellence in a diverse range of curricular and extra-curricular arenas including Academic, Cultural, Artistic, Sporting, Social and Community.

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- Students have opportunities to achieve their maximum potential in an environment where individual gifts and talents are identified, valued and developed.
 - Students operate within an enriching learning environment, which fosters their autonomous decision-making, independent and lifelong learning skills and promotes confidence in themselves.
 - Students have opportunities to develop leadership capabilities and proactive thinking resulting in responsible action.
 - Students operate within a school environment that encourages knowledge and skilful use of contemporary technological advances across the whole curriculum.
 - Students operate within an ethical school community, which values individual achievement balanced with mutual respect and a spirit of cooperation to achieve both individual and school community goals.
 - Our school values, developed by the students and staff are: Personal Bests, Intellectual Curiosity, Social Responsibility, Kindness, Inclusivity, Resilience and Respect.

OUR SCHOOL BADGE - THE TORCH

The Torch was chosen as the badge for our school because it represents the "enlightenment of knowledge" as our students strive for excellence and personal growth.

The tradition of the School Captain and Head Prefect passing on the Torch to successive years is a deeply symbolic aspect of our annual Speech Day.



OUR SCHOOL MOTTO -

“Faith with Fortitude”

The School motto was chosen in the foundation year of Hornsby Girls High School.

At our school, FAITH is seen as a personal quality – namely faith in yourself, in the teachers and in the school. More generally, the concept of faith in human nature, in spite of human weakness, is also an important part of our belief.

FORTITUDE is strength, especially strength of character, even in the midst of adversity when we need to find the resilience to face all life’s challenges.

Our motto identifies two values, which should be lifelong ambitions. These values are as relevant today as they were in the founding days of the school.

OUR SCHOOL VALUES

In 2018 the SRC developed, in consultation with the senior executive, seven school values. These values help to guide the whole school in the understanding of Positive Education and the practical applications of Positive Education for each student.

Our school values are:

Personal Bests, Intellectual Curiosity, Social Responsibility, Kindness, Inclusivity, Resilience and Respect.

In SWL-Being (our student led wellbeing lessons) each session focusses on one of our school values in order to provide a practical application within our school community.

Personal Bests

Intellectual Curiosity

Social Responsibility

Kindness

Inclusivity

Resilience

Respect

HSC HIGHLIGHTS



Class of 2022

The HSC results were outstanding with 21 Premiers All Rounders, four State rankings including two First in State and an overall Band 6 success rate of 46% with 320 band 6 results.

Overall, Hornsby Girls was the highest placed government school for English and third highest government girls' school for Mathematics.

Well done to the Class of 2022 and thank you to all their teachers for their outstanding efforts.



Sophia Tran

&

Parmis Amiri

both Dux with 99.85

Premiers Allrounders

(Band 6 in five Courses including English)

Parmis Amiri
Isabel Angara
Rachel Au-Yeung
Stephanie Chan
Ashley Choi
Grace Cui
Maanya Gawande
Celine Hu
Alyssa Leung
Leyan Liang
Jessica Soobyn Lim
Divya Nandyal
Nixie Nassar
Gabrielle Teo
Genesis Tian
Sophia Tran
Lucy dai Song
Tanaya Subramanian
Bethany Tam
Chenyan Yu
Maya Weiss

2022 HSC Top Achievers (State Ranking)

Maya Weiss - 1st in French Beginners
Teresa Li - 1st in Japanese Continuers
Rosemary Ai - 2nd in Software Design and
Development
Nixie Nasser - 5th in German Continuers

Well done Year 12 2022

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Our Curriculum is tailored to the abilities, needs and aspirations of our academically selective students. Students study a broad curriculum including opportunities for Project Based Learning (PBL) in a range of key learning areas.

YEARS 7-8

All students study common courses, as mandated by the NSW Education Standards Authority:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Personal Development/Health/Physical Education
- Visual Arts
- Languages (French, German, Japanese)
- Music
- Design & Technology
- Sport.

YEARS 9-10


All students study the following CORE subjects, as mandated by the NSW Education Standards Authority:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History and Geography
- Personal Development/Health/Physical Education.

Students study three ELECTIVE subjects in Year 9 and two in Year 10 with an additional PBL component.

Electives may include:

- Commerce; Information & Software Technology;
- Drama; Music;
- Photographic & Digital Media; Visual Arts; Visual Design;
- French; German; Japanese;
- Food Technology; Textile Technology;
- Elective History; Elective Geography.



YEARS 11-12

English is the ONLY compulsory subject for the Higher School Certificate (HSC).

Elective subjects include:

- English Extensions 1 & 2;
- Mathematics; Mathematics Extensions 1 & 2;
- Biology; Chemistry; Physics;
- Business Studies; Economics; Geography; Legal Studies; Society & Culture;
- Ancient History; Modern History; History Extension;
- Visual Arts; Philosophy;
- Music; Music Extension; Drama;
- Personal Development/Health/Physical Education;
- French; French Extension; German; German Extension; Japanese; Japanese Extension; Spanish Beginners;
- Textiles & Design;
- Information Technology; Software Design & Development;
- Sport, Leisure & Recreation.

STUDENT WELLBEING



Our Student Wellbeing Program is based upon Martin Seligman's PERMA model and incorporates programs to develop Positive Emotions, Positive Relationships, Meaning and Purpose and the celebration of Achievement.

All staff are responsible for student wellbeing however, Year Advisers are responsible for each year group.

The Year Advisers, Head Teacher Student Wellbeing, Student Support Officer, Learning Support Teacher and the School Counsellor comprise the Student Wellbeing Team.

Any queries concerning a student's wellbeing needs should be addressed to the relevant Year Advisor, Head Teacher Wellbeing or the Deputy Principal.

Student Wellbeing programs at Hornsby Girls High School include:

- A Positive Education Framework focusing on the celebration of student strengths, mindfulness, kindness and gratitude.
- The Minerva Merit Award Scheme, which celebrates student endeavour in the fields of Academic Achievement, Sporting Involvement, Cultural Achievement, School Spirit and Service, Community Citizenship.
- The Student Leadership Strategy.
- The Prefect System.
- House Meetings, House Sporting Competitions and House Choir which allow students to mix with girls from other years, providing opportunities for student support and for a greater sense of cohesion across the school.
- Student led SWL-Being - a Positive Education Program conducted in assembly time and Year meetings.
- Specific Student Wellbeing activities based upon student needs for example cyber safety, anti-bullying and self-esteem programs and Positive Education.
- Student Enrichment Activities.
- A Positive Education Peer Support Program, which facilitates the transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and systematically addresses the elements of Positive Psychology and Positive Education during Term 1.
- Student camps in Years 7, 9 and 11, which focus on developing positive relationships, personal challenge and resilience.
- A Year 7 transition program which starts in Semester 1 and continues in Semester 2 that fosters student connectedness.

PREFECTS

At Hornsby Girls High School we operate a Prefect System, which is part of our Student Leadership Program.

Each year the student body elects 18 Prefects, who in turn elect a School Captain, Vice-Captain and two Senior Prefects.

Our 2024 School Captain is Rosanna Mar-Young, the Vice-Captain is Elizabeth Vizor and Senior Prefects Rachel Gibson and Hiru Kariyawasam.

The Prefects are the leaders of our student body, elected to represent the students and to uphold the standards and values of the school.



STUDENT WELLBEING LEADERS (SWL)

SWL-Being is a fundamental part of our school's Positive Education Program, in which all students come together once per fortnight to focus on fostering a culture of wellbeing at Hornsby Girls.

SWL-Being aims to explore our school values, which are critical to unity, connection and becoming a global citizen beyond school.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

The Student Representative Council (SRC) consists of four to five representatives from Years 7-9. A further eight students are elected from Years 10 and 11. President and Vice-President of the SRC are chosen from this group.

In 2024, Lauren Wilson is Head of SRC and Helen Bui Deputy Head of SRC.

The aim of the SRC is to provide students with opportunities to develop their skills in student leadership. To this end, meetings are held regularly at school where the students discuss and action important issues.

Year representatives also enjoy contact with students from SRCs at other schools by attending forums, workshops, meetings and conferences.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

JUNIOR SCHOOL UNIFORM - YEARS 7 - 9

Summer Uniform

- Fawn dress with navy stripes or navy pants or shorts with school initials.
- White Junior short sleeve shirt with school initials.
- Navy V-neck pullover jumper with fawn stripe, available in wool or cotton blend.
- Navy cardigan with school crest, available in wool or cotton blend (optional).
- Navy school blazer.
- Navy jacket.
- White fold over ankle socks.
- Shoes - regulation school shoes, black, lace up leather.

Winter Uniform

- Navy tunic with fawn pin stripes or navy pants with school initials.
- White long sleeve shirt with school initials.
- Navy V-neck pullover jumper with fawn stripe, available in wool or cotton blend.
- Navy cardigan with school crest, available in wool or cotton blend (optional).
- Navy school blazer.
- Navy jacket.
- Navy school scarf.
- Black tights; white fold over ankle socks.
- Shoes - regulation school shoes, black, lace up leather.



Sports Uniform

- Navy and white polo shirt with school crest.
- Navy sport shorts with school initials.
- Tracksuit - navy and white top and pants with school crest.
- Socks - white sports style.
- Gym shoes / running shoes - black or white.
- Navy sports cap with school initials.
- Sunscreen is recommended for outdoor activity.

Food Technology Uniform

A white apron and cap, suitable for wearing over school uniform.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

SENIOR SCHOOL UNIFORM – YEARS 10, 11 & 12

Summer Uniform

- Fawn check pleated skirt or navy pants or shorts with school initials.
- Cream Senior short sleeve shirt with school initials.
- Navy V-neck pullover jumper with fawn stripe, available in wool or cotton blend.
- Navy cardigan with school crest, available in wool or cotton blend (optional).
- Navy school blazer.
- Navy jacket.
- White fold over ankle socks.
- Shoes - regulation school shoes, black, lace up leather.



Winter Uniform

- Navy wool skirt or navy pants with school initials.
- White shirt with school crest.
- Navy V-neck pullover jumper with fawn stripe, available in wool or cotton blend.
- Navy cardigan with school crest, available in wool or cotton blend (optional).
- Navy school blazer.
- Navy jacket.
- Navy school scarf.
- Black tights; white fold over ankle socks.
- Shoes - regulation school shoes, black, lace up leather.

FOOTWEAR

Department of Education regulation black footwear not canvas, preferably with a solid sole, leather upper and lace-up front. Boots are not acceptable.

SCHOOL BAGS

School bags and school sports bags (with the school crest) are available to purchase through School Locker.

SCHOOL HATS

Beige school hats with a navy band and school crest are available from the Clothing Pool. These are highly recommended for sun protection.

PURCHASING THE UNIFORM

School Uniforms are supplied by School Locker: <https://theschoollocker.com.au/> School Locker have an online ordering system and operate a store at the school each Wednesday during term time from 1 pm to 3:30 pm. They also have a store in North Sydney.

CLOTHING POOL

The school **Clothing Pool** is open on **Tuesdays** from **8:00 am to 8:45 am**. Students may purchase second-hand Summer and Winter uniforms at the school Clothing Pool.

The School Uniform Code can be found on our website.



THE PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Our Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association continues to provide great support for our school. P&C meetings provide a regular forum for parents to be involved in their daughter's education. The ideas and opinions of our school community are always valued by the school, and all parents are encouraged to become involved in P&C matters.

The Association plays an active role in ensuring that students receive every opportunity to have enriching experiences during their high school years.

The P&C also acts as an important fundraising group in the school, providing funds for special projects, which would not be otherwise funded by government allocations. Several places on the P&C Committee are reserved for parents of Year 7 students.

P&C meetings are held in the Common Room at 7.45 pm on the third Wednesday of each month during term time. It is common practice to invite a member of staff or a special guest speaker to address the meeting on an area of particular interest.





THE OLD GIRLS' UNION

Over 750 Life Members, representing decades of the school's history and living all around the world, keep in touch with their old school through the Old Girls' Union (OGU). The OGU Newsletter, Annual Reunions, and various other functions enable the ex-students to meet and exchange news of 'life after HGHS'.

An Executive Committee liaises closely with the school and is committed to ensuring that the fine traditions and values of the school are preserved. To this end, there is representation from the Old Girls' Union on a number of school committees.

Fundraising is also an important function of the OGU, and the members rally to assist the school on many important projects, as well as providing funds for welfare, equipment and student awards.



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

The following activities are offered at Hornsby Girls High School to provide a broad range of experiences and opportunities for our students.

Aerobics

- Teams and Individual Events
- State and National Competitions.

Art and Design

- HSC Visual Arts Exhibition
- Hornsby Girls High School Art Exhibition
- Additional activities may include:
 - ceramics
 - digital photography
 - drawing
 - oil painting
 - realistic painting
- School Magazine - Minerva
- GAT Workshops.

Building Strength

Year 11 Positive Education Program.

Business Studies

- Business Educators Australasia "Plan Your Own Enterprise" Competition
- University of Newcastle Year 11 Business Plan Challenge
- UBS Women in Leadership Program.

Cafe Gratitude

Barista training and operation of school cafe.

Camps in Years 7, 9 and 11.

Leadership camps for SRC.

Coding Club

Charity Fundraising may include:

- Anglicare "Toys 'n Tucker" Christmas appeal
- Cancer Council
- Guide Dog Association
- Hornsby Women's Shelter
- Indigenous Literacy Foundation
- Jeans for Genes Day
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Legacy Badge Day
- MS Readathon
- National Heart Foundation Valentine's Day Appeal
- Pink Ribbon Day - Breast Cancer Research
- Purple Ribbon Campaign *Unifem*
- Red Cross Blood Donor Appeal
- Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal
- Stewart House
- UN Women
- World's Greatest Shave - Leukaemia Foundation
- 40 Hour Famine - World Vision.



Chess Club

- Inter-School Competitions
- Outdoor chess board in COLA Area.

Commerce

- Australian Securities Exchange Competition
- Commonwealth Bank Financial Literacy Program
- The Australian Parliament 'My First Speech' Competition
- UN Youth Negotiations Competition
- Young Lawyers – guest Speaker Program
- Year 9 Running a Business Market Day
- Year 10 Police and Justice Museum Excursion
- Year 10 NSW Parliament Visit.

Dance

- Regional and State Festivals
- Talented Dance Ensembles – Three dance groups
- Various Eisteddfods.

Debating

- Premier's Debating Challenge - Years 7-12
- Social Debating Years 7 and 8
- Year 11 Metro Debating Competition
- Also see PUBLIC SPEAKING.

Digital Leadership – Years 9 and 10.

Drama

- After-School Drama Enrichment Classes
- Hornsby Girls High School Student Performance Evenings
- Junior and Senior State Drama Ensembles
- Regional and State Drama Festivals
- School Musical – alternate years (with Normanhurst BHS).

Driver Education Program

- Year 11 RYDA Driver Education Program.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

- Bronze, Silver and Gold Levels.

English

- Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Competition
- Hornsby Girls High School Writing Competition – sponsored by the HGHS Old Girls' Union
- Publication of Burning Bright – student writing magazine
- Writing Competitions advertised through the Year:
 - Guringai Festival Reconciliation Writing Competition
 - What Matters Writing Competition
 - Write Now! Competition
- Also see DEBATING, DRAMA and PUBLIC SPEAKING.



Enterprise Challenge

Year 10 Illuminate Enterprise Challenge

Environment

- **FRED** (Friends of Recycling, the Environment and Dirt) Student-initiated and student-managed environmental group
 - Clean Up Australia Day activities
 - Earth Hour
 - Paper Recycling Program across the school
 - Plant-A-Tree Day
 - Recycling of soft plastic
 - Students participating in P&C Grounds Days.
- **SEMP** (School Environmental Management Plan) Committee.

Excursions and other visits - in most Faculties.

Geography

- Australian Geography Competition
- Fieldwork to numerous sites including Barangaroo and the Great Barrier Reef
- Observatory Hill Environmental Centre Fieldwork Day.

Grit Factor

Year 12 Positive Education Program.

Harmony Day

Intercultural understanding and co-operation.

Highlite - Christian Fellowship Group.

History

- HSC Extension History Prize
- National History Challenge
- NSW National Trust Heritage Competition
- Simpson History Prize
- Year 10 Vietnam Day
- Year 8 Medieval Day
- Rocks Site Study.

Languages

(French, German, Japanese, Spanish)

- Education Perfect World Championships.

Library

- Book reviews for Oliver Library Management System
- Library Monitors
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Visiting authors as guest speakers
- Year 7 Book Club
- Year 8 Book Club
- Years 9/10 Book Club.



Leadership - Within the School:

- Prefect System - portfolio structure
- Travel Prefects - for assistance travelling to/from school
- Student Representative Council (SRC)
- SWL (Year 10 Student Wellbeing Leaders)
- House System
 - House Captains
 - House Sports Captains and Vice Captains
 - House Music Captains and Vice Captains
- Peer Support Program – Student leadership in Year 6-7 Transition Program and whole school Wellbeing Program
- Year group Charity Fundraising Activities
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Work Experience (Year 10)
- Games Day Leaders
- Year 12 Masterclasses
- School Ambassadors - school tour guides
- HGHS Social Justice Group
- School Annual Magazine - Minerva
- House Choir Competition
- Lip-sync - Student Charity Concert
- Year 12 Jersey Committee.

External Leadership Opportunities

- Australian Youth Development Student Leadership conference
- Director-General's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement

- Future Leaders Conference - Halogen
- International Women's Day Functions
- Long Tan Awards for Leadership and Teamwork
- Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement
- Model United Nations Assembly - Rotary
- National Young Leaders Day
- Student Leadership Program for School Captains/Vice Captains - NSW Government
- Student Representative Council - District/Regional/State Levels
- UBS Finance Academy - Macquarie University
- UBS Young Women's Leadership Academy - Sydney University
- United Nations Youth Association State Conference
- Women's Student Leadership Seminars - Women's College, Sydney University
- Young Achievement Australia Business Skills Program
- Young Australian of the Year
- Young Women's Leadership Seminar - NSW Parliament House
- Youth of the Year Quest - Hornsby Lions Club
- Youth Parliament - NSW YMCA
- Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award.



Mathematics

- Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiad (APSMO)
- Australian Mathematics Competition
- Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians – Challenge and Enrichment Problems.

Minerva Magazine

Annual School Magazine.

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)

Mock Trial

NSW Law Society Mock Trial Competition.

Music

- Beginner Band
- Chamber Ensembles
- Choirs – Year 7, Junior, Senior and Chorale
- Guitar Ensemble
- House Choir
- Jazz Band
- NSW Schools Spectacular
- Orchestras - String, Symphony and Minerva
- Percussion Ensemble
- Regional and International Music Tours
- School Musical – alternate years (with Normanhurst BHS)
- State Music Camps - Junior & Senior
- State Schools Instrumental and Vocal Ensembles

- Student Performance Evenings
- Sydney Eisteddfod
- Wind Bands - Concert and Symphonic

Peer Support Positive Education Program

Transition to High School Program for Year 7 - led by Year 10 Student Leaders, delivering Wellbeing Programs through SWL-Being activities.

Peer Tutoring

Public Speaking

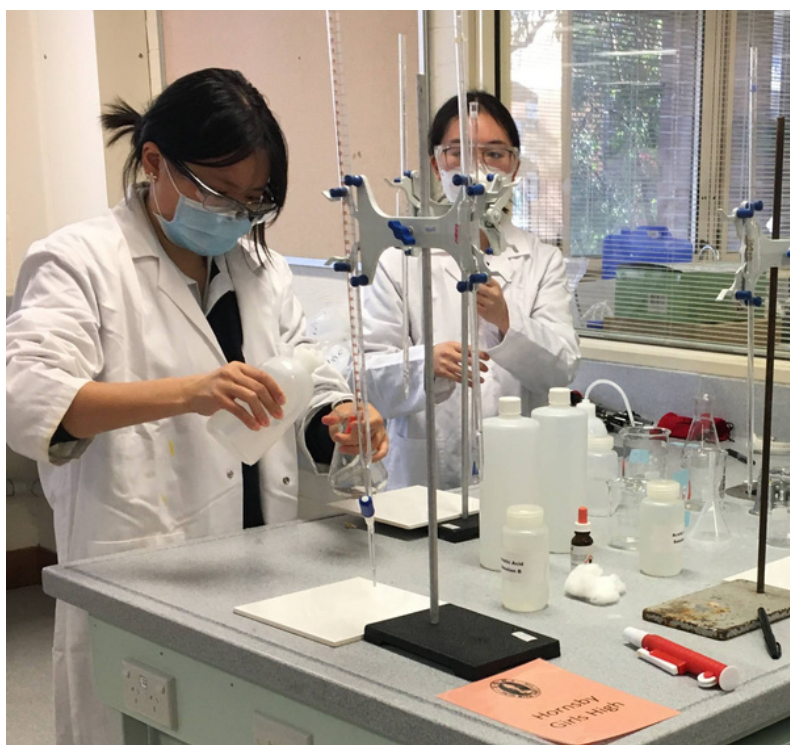
- English Plain Speaking Award
- Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition
- Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition
- UN Youth Evatt Public Speaking Competition.

Raise Mentoring Program

Running Club

Science

- Australian Science Olympiad – Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- FIRST Lego League Robotics
- FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics
- National Youth Science Forum
- RACI Chemistry Quiz
- RACI Titration Competition
- Science & Engineering Challenge (Year 10)
- UNSW ICAS Science Competition.



Sister-School Relationship – Shukutoku Yono, Japan.

Social Justice Group

- Birth Kit Foundation fundraiser
- High Tea for Hamlin
- Immediate disaster relief fundraising
- International Women's Day Breakfast
- Support the Girls fundraiser
- Uplift Bra Program
- World Vision 40 hour famine.

Spirit Week

Last week of Term 2, School Spirit activities organised by the SRC.

Sport

- Year 7 & Year 8 Games Days
- Entry to Zone/Regional/State/National Competitions as appropriate
- **Tournaments** - many of the teams have specialist external coaches:
 - Aerobics, Athletics
 - Badminton, Basketball
 - Cricket, Cross Country
 - Fencing
 - Netball
 - Oz Tag
 - Rowing
 - Snowboarding, Soccer, Softball, Swimming
 - Tennis, Touch Football, Table Tennis
 - Volleyball.

- **Extra-curricular Sport** - seasonal:
 - Aerobics, Athletics Training
 - Basketball
 - Cricket, Cross Country Training
 - Dance, Football, Netball
 - Oz Tag, Soccer
 - Table Tennis Club, Taekwondo,
 - Tennis, Touch, Volleyball,
 - Water Polo, Yoga.
- **Senior Fitness Room** – training and registration required.

SWL-Being

Positive Education Program lead by Year 10 Student Wellbeing Leaders incorporating mindfulness and other elements of positive psychology.

Technology and Applied Studies (TAS)

- McCormick Flavour Challenge National Food Technology competition Stage 5
- Wool 4 Schools National Textiles and Design Competition Stage 5.

Tournament of Minds

Year 12 Subject Masterclasses

In preparation for HSC Examinations top ranking students in each subject offer advice, address key concepts and answer questions in student-led afternoon sessions.

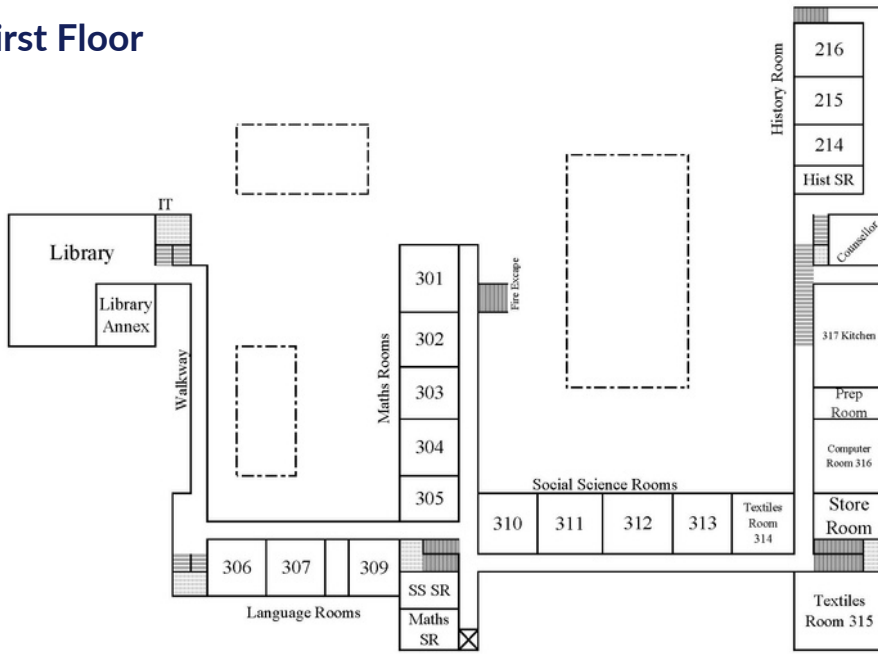
Youth Mental Health Aware Program





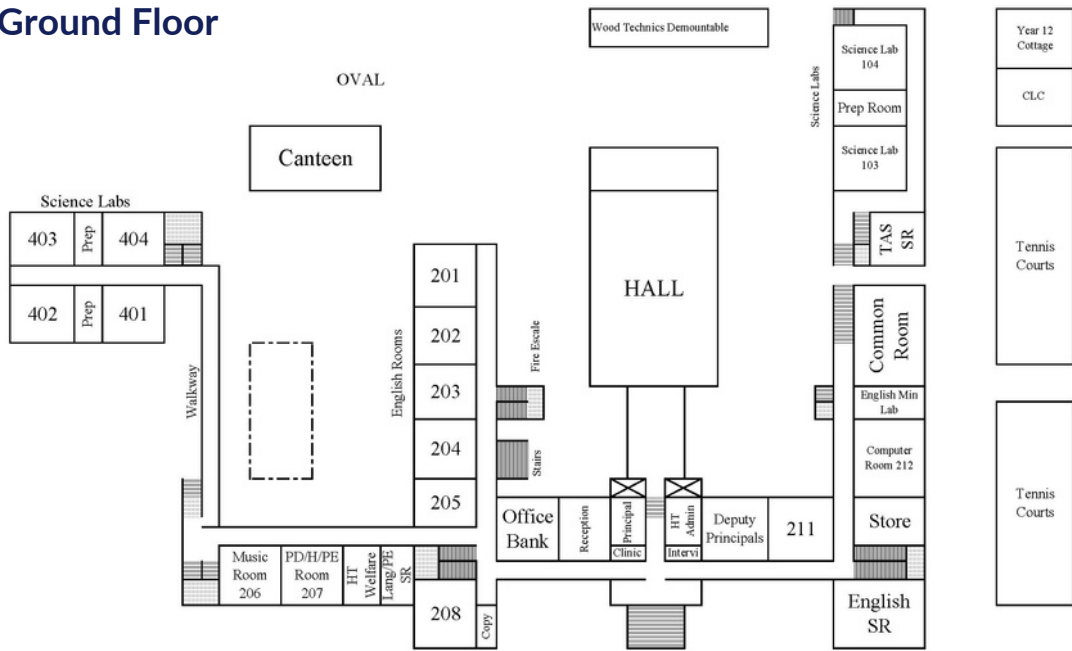
HORNSBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL MAP

First Floor



Edgeworth David Ave

Ground Floor



Edgeworth David Ave

Lower Ground Floor

